FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 JUNE 1986

Syria-Iraq-Iran

The 13 June scheduled meeting between the Syrian and Iraqi foreign ministers was postponed in order to "make further preparations," according to an "informed official source" cited by Amman television. "Arab diplomatic sources" in the Gulf and "informed sources" in Baghdad asserted that the meeting will not convene as long as Syria continues to support Iran and provide it with "assistance," according to Radio Monte Carlo. Nevertheless, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad 'Ali Besharati stressed that in his recent talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus, the latter assured him of Syria's continued "full-scale" support for Iran and described bilateral ties as "strategic," "principled," and "steadfast," according to IRNA reports. Commenting on a SANA report on a meeting between Besharati and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio criticized Khaddam's declaration that Syria views the Islamic revolution as a "gain" for the Iranian people and his assertion of the two countries' "fraternal and strategic" relations, stressing that the remarks showed "bad timing, impoliteness, and lack of propriety."

In a related development, the UAE paper *AL-ITTIHAD* cited by WAM divulged that a "senior Syrian official" recently made a secret visit to Saudi Arabia during which he explained that the Syrian-Iraqi meeting was postponed because of Syria's "unwillingness" to undermine its relations with Iran. An "official" Saudi source cited by Riyadh radio "categorically" denied a 13 June Voice of Lebanon radio report citing "Western diplomatic sources" that Saudi Arabia has agreed to guarantee a $1 billion loan to Syria in exchange for Syria's reconciliation with Iraq and the Palestinians. In related news, the Libyan paper *AL-JAMAHIRIYAH* cited by Voice of Lebanon expressed its dissatisfaction with the Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement, insisting that this contradicts a longstanding agreement between Syria and Libya on the need to "do away" with the Amman regime. The paper also condemned the fighting in Lebanon between Palestinians and the Amal Movement, asserting that the fighting is "incompatible" with Syria's "steadfastness" role.

Arab Summit

An "Arab diplomatic source" in Amman revealed that the Arab League has decided to postpone the Arab summit scheduled for "next month" because of the continuing differences between Syria and Iraq, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The source added that the Arab League secretary general favored the convocation of a summit after an Iraqi-Syrian meeting.

Lebanon

The Syrian Army intervened to halt violent clashes between Hizballah and Syrian Social Nationalist Party (SSNP) gunmen in the southern Al-Biqa' town of Mashgharah, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, noting that a Syrian "special force" entered the town the evening of 14 June. The radio cited an AP report that 20 people were killed and 100 others were injured in the Hizballah-SSNP clashes. Despite Mashgharah's proximity to Israel's border security zone, Israeli military experts quoted by *THE JERUSALEM POST said they were "not concerned" by* the Syrian move into the area because the Israelis "prefer the Syrians there to Hizballah." In another development concerning southern Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported the Israeli defense minister's statement that Israel is willing to withdraw its remaining forces from Lebanon if the Amal Movement agrees to keep the border area quiet. However, an Amal official cited by Beirut radio rejected the offer and stressed that his movement will "under no circumstances deal with Israel."

As for the situation in Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that the cease-fire in the camps war was violated by intermittent clashes 15 June, noting that "violent fighting" erupted later that day. Amal leader Nabih Birri had instructed his forces to strictly observe the cease-fire agreed on at a meeting between Amal and Palestinian National Salvation Front (PNSF) leaders in Syrian Vice President Khaddam's office in Damascus 14 June, according to Beirut radio. The previous day, Birri and other Lebanese Muslim leaders meeting in Khaddam's office agreed to reject "party security" and to form a "regular security force" to police West Beirut and to establish security in and around the Palestinian camps, Damascus radio reported. The conferees called for the application of Lebanese sovereignty over all Lebanese territory, rejecting "special security systems" for the Palestinian camps and condemning calls by "some Palestinian officials residing in Tunisia and Jordan" for a Palestinian return to Lebanon. The PNSF was urged to cooperate with the regular forces in establishing security in the camps. As for Muslim-Christian relations, the conferees stressed the need to proceed toward a national solution "in the spirit of the tripartite agreement." However, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who attended the Damascus meeting, subsequently announced in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio that the new Damascus agreement "does not provide a comprehensive solution for Lebanon that would make us certain that the crisis is over." Karami also called for President Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation, a proposal that was dismissed by Christian ministers in East Beirut cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Meanwhile, Al-Jumayyil left Beirut 15 June at the start of a tour of Gulf states, Beirut radio noted.

In a separate political development in the Christian sector, the Voice of Lebanon announced that George Sa'adah was elected Phalangist Party leader 16 June, replacing Elie Karamah.

Libya

"Well-informed diplomatic sources" cited by the Kuwaiti paper *AL-SIYASAH in its 12 June edition claimed that "high tension"* currently prevails between Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and "some elements" of the Armed Forces, noting that Al-Qadhdhafi recently dismissed a "large number" of military

commanders for failing to confront the U.S. air raids in April. The sources also contended that related to this tension, Al-Qadhdhafi recently dismissed a top internal security official because of his failure to take the necessary action to quell the "tense internal situation."

In an interview with the West German agency DPA, Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud affirmed that negotiations are currently under way on the "practical arrangements" for future Libyan "collaboration" with the Warsaw Pact. Jallud blamed American and European "stupidity" for forcing Libya into this situation.

Meanwhile, Tripoli radio announced 15 June that parts of a U.S. aircraft downed during the U.S. attack against Tripoli and Banghazi washed up on the shores in the area of Sabratah, Al-Nugat al-Khams municipality.

Syria

"Various sources" in Moscow and a "neutral Arab diplomatic source" have affirmed to the Paris paper *AL-MUSTAQBAL* that Syria "obtained its requests" for Soviet MiG-29's and MiG-31's and SS-23 missiles during Vice President Khaddam's recent visit to the USSR. The sources speculated that a new arms deal will be signed between the two countries during President al-Asad's upcoming trip to the Soviet Union. Other sources cited by the paper reported that during Khaddam's visit, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev informed Khaddam of the measures the Soviet Union was taking to prevent a U.S. or joint U.S.-Israeli "aggression" against Syria.

In another development, MENA cited the Cairo paper *AL-AHRAM*'s strong criticism of Syria in light of reports contending that Syria and Israel concluded a secret agreement "last April" under U.S. auspices that "restrains" Syria from deploying its troops in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' valley outside a "specified area."

Regarding internal developments, the Lebanese paper *LE REVEIL* citing an "Arab diplomatic source" asserted that Syrian intelligence and Muslim Brotherhood gunmen clashed in Homs 6 June, killing two intelligence officers and six Brotherhood members, Radio Free Lebanon reported. The paper also alleged that a "high-ranking" employee at Syria's presidential palace was arrested "last week" on charges of providing the Muslim Brotherhood with "secret information."

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA reported that Iraqi planes bombed Khark Island facilities 16 June. In earlier air action, an Iraqi military spokesman informed INA that an Iraqi plane shot down two Iranian F-5's over northern Iraq 14 June after intercepting them as they attempted to bomb residential areas.

For Iran's part, a military report cited by Tehran radio claimed that an Iraqi gunboat was destroyed on the far side of Khawr 'Abdallah 15 June by Iranian naval and coastal units. A communique carried by IRNA 14 June disclosed that Iranian bombers raided Iraqi positions in the Hajj 'Umran region, inflicting substantial casualties on the Iraqis. Regarding Iranian war strategy, in a speech and cited by Tehran radio, Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Commander in Chief Mohsen Reza'i revealed that Iran is planning new military operations, while Iran's Ground Forces commander, Colonel Sayyed-Shirazi, opined that Iran should launch large-scale offensives and forgo "limited military operations" under the present circumstance in which Iraq has incurred "deadly blows," IRNA reported.

In the Gulf, a Greek tanker off Dubayy was damaged by two missiles fired by an unidentified helicopter, according to the Greek Ministry of Merchant Marine cited by Athens radio, which added that none of the 23-man crew was injured.

Iran

Tehran radio reported Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's overwhelming reelection to that post 15 June during elections for the Majlis leadership. As for diplomatic developments, the radio disclosed that a Soviet diplomat in Iran conveyed a message from Soviet leader Gorbachev to President 'Ali Khamene'i's adviser. In Paris, the Iranian charge forwarded messages from Iranian officials to the French prime minister and French foreign minister, IRNA reported.

Egypt-Sudan

Following a 15 June meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in Cairo, Sudanese Foreign Minister al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi disclosed that agreement was reached "reviving the integration process" between the two countries, Cairo radio reported.

Egypt

The outgoing Soviet ambassador to Egypt met with President Mubarak 15 June during which he conveyed a verbal message from Soviet leader Gorbachev, and during which the two officials assessed bilateral ties as showing a recent "significant and comprehensive improvement," according to MENA. In other developments, Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid conferred with the Czechoslovak president and prime minister in Prague 13 June, according to reports carried by the Czechoslovak agencyCTK. Al-Majid arrived in East Germany 15 June on an official visit, the GDR agency ADN reported.

The Tabah talks with Israel will resume "next week" on the level of legal advisers, Jerusalem radio reported, noting that a U.S. representative also will participate. The radio also reported an Israeli protest to Cairo for statements made by the Egyptian ambassador to Thailand to a local paper asserting that Israel has no right over Palestine.

As for internal affairs, AFP reported that a peaceful demonstration by "hundreds" of Muslim fundamentalists protesting against the "secular forces holding the reins of government" was held in central Cairo late 13 June.

Sudan

Revealing that rebel forces have recently carried out military operations in eastern Equatoria, Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-

Mahdi nevertheless asserted that the Armed Forces have the capability of defeating them although insisting that the government continues to favor a negotiated end to the fighting, according to SUNA. On the other hand, Al-Mahdi also divulged that the National Defense Council has decided to implement unspecified security measures promptly in order to "alleviate" the security situation in the south.

In other developments reported by SUNA, five of the eight southern political parties issued a communique calling for the establishment of "self-government" in the south in accordance with the Addis Ababa agreement.

Iraq-USSR

Iraqi Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali al-Amiri returned to Iraq from the Soviet Union 14 June following a 3-day visit there during which a 5-year trade agreement was signed, INA reported.

Gulf Affairs

In separate messages broadcast by Riyadh radio 15 June, the Saudi Defense Minister congratulated his Bahraini and Qatari counterparts on the their forces' withdrawal from the Fasht al-Dibal and Hawar Islands to their previous positions and levels. A "well-informed source" cited by the UAE paper *AL-KHALIJ* revealed that prior to their withdrawal, Qatari forces dismantled the installations on Fasht al-Dibal and removed the equipment used by the company carrying out construction work on the island.

PLO

The DFLP warned Israel that the murder of one of its officials in Athens "will not go unpunished," in a statement issued 14 June and broadcast by Aden Voice of Palestine radio.

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SAARC Issues Statement on Extradition of Terrorists

BK141151 Hong Kong AFP in English 0957 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] Dhaka, June 14 (AFP) — Officials from seven South Asian countries Saturday urged regional cooperation to extradite terrorists after a three-day meeting on combating terrorism, a joint statement said.

Experts from the member states of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) also recommended voluntary restraint by the media in reporting terrorism, a brief statement issued after the meeting said.

The statement also deplored the menace of terrorism and called for concerted efforts and action at international and national levels to tackle the problem.

The meeting adopted a number of recommendations for legal and executive level cooperation among SAARC members, which will be considered by an SAARC standing committee meeting of foreign secretaries and then put to an SAARC summit due to be held in New Delhi later this year.

Full details of the recommendations were not made available to the press.

Iranian Aid to Rebels 'Official Policy'
LD142022 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Jun 86

[Commentary by BAKHTAR political commentator]

[Text] After the victory of the April Revolution, imperialism, led by U.S. imperialism, and the reactionary regimes of the region have attempted to topple the political sovereignty of DRA workers and, in order to achieve this objective, they unleashed an undeclared war against the revolution, the people and the country.

While the ruling circles of the Iranian regime have consistently tried to deny their role in the undeclared war against our country and pretend that they do not interfere in the DRA's internal affairs, documents, evidence and tangible facts concerning its behavior toward our people prove otherwise.

By using the (?false) slogans of defending Islam, supporting theworld's Muslims, and exporting the Islamic revolution as a guise for intervention, in practice they have been carrying out aggression and intervention against the free, independent and sovereign country of the DRA, and are consistently striving to impose various difficulties on our Muslim and faithful people.

Intervention by the ruling regime of Iran in the DRA's internal affairs is being carried out in various ways and the authorities of that regime have elevated to the level of official policy their hostile and confrontationist policy against our people and revolution by convening so-called seminars and gatherings and giving a warm welcome to the chieftains of small Afghan counterrevolutionary bands and honoring them with the title of Mojahedin and fighters on the path of righteousness; and by provoking, financing, arming and blatantly organizing the counterrevolutionary bands to murder, plunder, commit arson and fratricide.

By ignoring all international norms and accepted standards, the ruling circles of Iran, continuing to organise gatherings and assemblies, recently convened an artificial and staged gathering on the occasion of Jerusalem Day, under the title of the second international Islamic liberation movement where, in addition to a number of notorious elements from other parts of the world, some chieftains of Afghan counterrevolutionary bands took part. Representatives of the prime minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Intelligence and Security and delegates of the Iranian Majlis took part in this so-called assembly.

The Iranian press placed particular emphasis on the speech by Abu Sharif, the so-called special representative of Ayatollah Montazeri in the Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan, who presented a report about the results of subversive actions in the DRA. The gratitude expressed to the chieftains of the small Afghan counterrevolutionary bands by the Iranian authorities once again clearly reveals that that government has given and is giving huge material, military and political assistance to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries.

The authorities of Iran at this gathering again impudently assumed the right to speak on behalf of an independent and free country by blatant interference in the DRA's internal affairs and to discuss the imposition of their desired social system on an independent and sovereign people and country.

The proceedings of the so-called assembly proved that the granting of assistance to the counterrevolutionaries in the DRA has been elevated to the level of the official policy of the reactionary government of Iran. Such a hostile and interfering stand by the authorities in Iran, which is a gross contradiction to all accepted standards and international law, was obvious from the outset as evidenced by the lack of interest of the authorities in establishing normal and friendly relations between the two countries, their irresponsible rejection of the DRA's proposals and peace initiatives and their refusal to take part in the Geneva talks.

The convocation of such gatherings at the government level in Iran clearly show that that country is a major factor in the continuation of the undeclared war against the DRA and interference in the internal affairs of our country. Naturally, the continuation of such a policy creates a serious obstacle to peace and stability in the region.

Successful Anti-Guerrilla Operations Detailed
LD131943 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 13 Jun 86

[Text] Continuing the operations to clear the country's villages and hamlets of the counterrevolutionary elements in the recent successful operations by the security forces which were carried out around Enjil District and in the region of the Dasht-e Gazergah, Herat Province, a number of the rebels belonging to the murderer Jamiat band, including two criminal ringleaders — Abdol Qodus and Emamuddin — were crushed and a large number of their weapons and ammunition were destroyed.

According to another report, as a result of the operations which were carried out in the environs of Badghis Province, a number of the rebels including Fateh, their ringleader, were crushed; and several armed rebels were arrested.

Quoting a security forces spokesman, a BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent reports that as a result of the victorious operation carried out by the brave security forces of the country in the environs of Rast-Dar region, Wardag Province, a number of rebels who had been disrupting the life of the noble people of these regions, were crushed. Three recoilless guns with 15 boxes of their ammunition, one ZK-1, 1 DShK with 1035 boxes of ammuniton, 804 rounds of reactive [rocket], 280 rounds of mortar shells, 1 rocket launcher with 15 rounds of shells, 23 rounds of surface-to air missiles [as heard], and a quantity of various weapons and ammunition were seized.

Rebel Arms Cache Seized in Kabul Province Operation
LD141703 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] The security forces of the country, with the cooperation of the toiling inhabitants, yesterday in the course of successful operation carried out near Karez-e Mir, Shakardara District

[Kabul Province] discovered a hideout of the criminal murderous band of Etehad-e Eslami and seized from there 20 surface-to-surface missiles, three Japanese communication units and a number of recoilless shells. In this operation four hideouts of the murderers were also destroyed.

Five-Year Plan Envisages Transport Increases

LD150629 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0503 GMT 15 Jun 86

[Text] Kabul, June 14, BAKHTAR — New Transport enterprises will be established in Qandahar, Pol-e Khomri, Mazar-e Sharif, Lashkar Gah and Herat. The service standards of the existing transport enterprises will be improved as well during the first post-revolution five year plan.

According to Sher Jan Mazduryar, minister of transport, it is planned that the land transport facilities will be increased by 1.6 times. According to this plan, 1560 vehicles with high tonnages will be imported to the DRA. For rendering better services to the people, 100 new buses will be put at the services of our compatriots every year. The volume of commodities transported inside the country, during the first year of the 5 year plan will increase by 55.8 per cent. The figure in the state sector will be increased from 520,000 tons to 893,000 tons. During the current year 16.6 percent increment has been seen in the number of transport vehicles. Whereas the transport volume has gone up by 26.9 percent in comparison with figures of last year.

The friendly and brotherly country of the Soviet Union has been assisting the people of the DRA in all economic and technical spheres since many years.

The assistance of the Soviet Union in the field of transport is of vital importance to the economy fo the DRA.

AFP: Sikh 'Hit Team' Reportedly En Route to New Delhi

BK131631 Hong Kong AFP in English 1614 GMT 13 Jun 86

[Text] New Delhi, June 13 (AFP) — Police and security forces in New Delhi have been put on maximum alert following a report that a hit team of Sikh militants intends to strike in the capital, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported Friday.

PTI, quoting police sources, said that a six-member gang of Sikh militants, including two of India's most wanted men, Harjinder Singh and Mathura Singh, had either already entered the capital or was on its way here.

Meanwhile, PTI said that suspected Sikh militants have killed three people in the troubled northern state of Punjab since Thursday. A couple waiting for a bus in a village in Amritsar district was hacked to death Friday, PTI said, and one person was stabbed to death in Gurdaspur District Thursday.

In another development Friday, Punjab State Police Chief J.F. Riberio said that over a dozen police personnel had been dismissed in a drive against corrupt, inefficient or pro-militant men in the police service.

Mr Riberio also told reporters in Phangwara that he was confident police would succeed in curbing violence by Sikh militants who are campaigning for a separate state.

Further Reportage on Assault on Diplomats in Lahore

Venkateswaran, Pakistan Envoy Meet

BK131601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jun 86

[Excerpts] The foreign secretary, Mr A.P. Venkateswaran, today conveyed the Indian Government's deep concern to the Pakistan ambassador, Dr Humayun Khan, over the assault on the Indian diplomats and liaison officers by Canada-based terrorists in Lahore yesterday.

The Pakistan ambassador told Mr Venkateswaran that he has not yet received the report on the incident from his government. He will get in touch with him soon after he hears from Islamabad.

The officials who were assaulted at Gurdwara [Sikh temple] Dera Saheb in Lahore yesterday included the first secretary, Mr R.N. Nair; the head of chancery, Mr R.R. Das; welfare officer, Mr Suresh Pandey; and councillor, Mr B. Jain.

According to the reports received in Delhi, the six foreign-based terrorists involved in yesterday's incidents were the same persons who had attacked Indian diplomats earlier also.

The police personnel were present when the assault took place and prevented the Indian pilgrims from going to the rescue of the officials.

Case Against 7 Sikhs Registered

BK140354 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] In Pakistan, police have registered a case against Balbir Singh and six others on a complaint lodged by the first secretary of the Indian embassy, Mr Ravi Nair. Mr Nair had complained that he was manhandled when he visited the Dera Saheb [Sikh temple] in Lahore.

The leader of the visiting Sikh pilgrims, Mr Gulzar Singh, said in Islamabad yesterday that a 3-member committee has been formed to probe the assault.

Canadian-Based 'Terrorists' Arrested

BK141612 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] The six Canada-based terrorists, who assaulted Indian diplomats at Dera Saheb Gurdwara in Lahore on Thursday, and two others, are reported to have been taken away by the police from the gurdwara.

An official spokesman said in Islamabad this afternoon that six persons have been arrested in connection with the incident.

The All India Radio Islamabad correspondent, R.K. Mathur, and two other Indian journalists based in the city were yesterday denied permission to enter the gurdwara to attend the Bhog [religious] ceremony or to meet the [words indistinct] leaders.

Curfew Imposed on Allahabad Following Explosions

BK150931 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Jun 86

[Text] In Allahabad, indefinite curfew has been imposed from last night in parts of the city following incidents of bomb explosions and a clash between two groups. The clash took place when an irate mob stoned another group in the (Nataskona) area last night. The incident took a serious turn and some persons hurled bombs at the mob injuring several persons. District officials have reached the spot and strict vigil is being maintained in other parts of the city.

The situation in the curfew-bound areas is now reported to be under control and no untoward incidents have been reported. Police and provincial armed constabulary are patrolling the area.

Joint Talks on Siachen Glacier To Continue
BK131535 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 13 Jun 86

[Text] Pakistan and India have agreed to continue talks on the Saichen Glacier and expressed their resolve to seek a negotiated settlement of the issue in accordance with the Simla agreement.

A joint statement issued today said that Pakistani Defense Secretary Syed Ijlal Haider Zaidi and his Indian counterpart, S.K. Bhatnagar, discussed various proposals for a peaceful settlement of the issue at the second round of talks, which ended in New Delhi yesterday, and agreed to apprise their respective governments of these proposals.

The statement described the talks as constructive and said that they were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The Indian defense secretary accepted an invitation to visit Pakistan in order to continue negotiations on the problem. The date for his visit will be fixed according to mutual convenience.

The Pakistani defense secretary had another meeting with the Indian defense secretary in New Delhi today. Syed Ijlal Haider Zaidi also met Indian External Affairs Secretary Venkateswaran in New Delhi today.

One Killed, 12 Injured in Khyber Mail Train Explosion
BK160241 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 16 Jun 86

[Text] The Khyber mail train coming from Peshawar met with an accident last night due to a bomb explosion near (Pabbi), resulting in the death of one person and injuries to at least 12 others.

The explosion caused derailment of three compartments of the train, including two sleeper class and one second class compartments. The injured were immediately rushed to the Lady Reading Hospital in Peshawar. A relief train has arrived at the site of accident for relief work and clearing the railway track.

Railway officials told the Radio Pakistan's representative in Islamabad it is expected that the railway track will be cleared by this evening. Meanwhile, alternative arrangements have been made for the passengers movement.

Frontier Arms Reserve Force Set Up in Peshawar
BK160245 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 16 Jun 86

[Text] A new force named Frontier Arms Reserve Force is being set up to prevent antisocial activities and chaos in North-West Frontier Province.

The inspector general of police told a meeting of senior police officials in Peshawar yesterday that this new force will be constituted from about 5,000 youths. The meeting also reviewed the prevention of narcotics trafficking measures in the province.

Cabinet Meeting Discusses Law, Order Situation
BK140319 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Excerpt] The federal cabinet met in Rawalpindi under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and reviewed the law and order situation in the country.

The cabinet considered effective steps to deal with problems of subversive activities and bomb explosions in certain areas of the North-West Frontier Province and incidents of robbery in some parts of Sind. It also approved an amendment to the federal government employees' benevolent fund and Group Insurance Act.

Foreign Minister Leaves for London En Route to U.S.
BK160825 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 16 Jun 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left Islamabad for London this morning on his way to New York.

Talking to newsmen at the airport, he said he is visiting the United States at the invitation of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. He will exchange views with him on matters of mutual interest, the regional situation, and the recent international developments.

On this occasion, preparations for Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo's visit to the United States and the agenda of the talks with President Reagan will be covered.

The foreign minister said the U.S. Administration is giving great importance to the prime minister's visit because this will provide the first opportunity for a meeting between the U.S. President and the head of the democratically elected government of Pakistan.

Police Seize Arms, Ammunition in Baluchistan
BK150930 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Jun 86

[Text] According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS of PAKISTAN, the police have seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition in a raid at Dera Murad Jamali in Baluchistan.

The arms seized include four Kalashnikov rifles and magazines, five other rifles, and a pistol.

NEPAL

AFP: Parliament Agrees on New Prime Minister

BK131153 Hong Kong AFP in English 1135 GMT 13 Jun 86

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Katmandu, June 13 (AFP) — Marich Man Singh was elected prime minister of Nepal by Parliament Friday after a failed bid by a fellow politician to challenge him for the post.

Mr Singh, 44, is expected to be sworn into office by King Birendra on Sunday, and a new government to be announced on Monday, sources close to the National Panchayat (parliament) said.

Mr Singh won the support of 118 members of the National Panchayat, making it impossible for would-be rival Rajeswore Devkota, 56, to collect the necessary 35 signatures for his nomination papers.

Although pro-leftist members and former Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa did not sign Mr Singh's papers, analysts said his strong showing indicated overall support for the partyless Panchayat system. More than 60 percent of members elected in the May 12 vote had campaigned on a platform of reform for the 25-year-old Panchayat system and a balanced economic programme to generate employment.

Mr Singh, who was born in 1942 in Khalanga Bazar, 380 kilometres (230 miles) west of Katmandu, entered politics in 1960 as a youth representative. A former secondary school headmaster, Mr Singh held several different government posts, including education and culture minister. He was elected chairman of the National Panchayat in 1981 after his victory in the first general elections held under the partyless system. He is the first member of the Tibeto-Burmese ethnic group to be appointed prime minister.

Mr Singh's victory is to be formally announced by the Panchayat chairman on June 15, when his name is to be officially recommended to King Birendra for consent.

A majority of the 112 members elected to parliament in the May 12 balloting were newcomers calling for reforms. The remaining 28 of the total 140 members are selected by King Birendra, who has so far appointed 25.

Full List of New Cabinet

BK161005 Hong Kong AFP in English 0906 GMT 16 Jun 86

[Text] Katmandu, June 16 (AFP) — Here is a full list of the new Nepalese Government announced Monday:

Marich Man Singh Shrestha: prime minister, minister for defence, general administration, and royal palace affairs;
Sailendra Kumar Upadhayaya: minister of foreign affairs and land reforms;
Hari Bahadur Basnet: minister of transport, public works and communications;
Pashupati Shumsher Rana: minister of Panchayat and local development;
Hari Narayan Rajauriya: minister of agriculture, law and justice;
Hem Bahadur Malla: minister of forests and soil conservation;
Bijaya Prakash Thebe: minister of commerce;
Yadav Prasad Pant: minister of water resources;
Parasu Narayan Chaudhary: minister for local supply;
Gunjeswari Prasad Singh: minister for public health.

Ministers of state:

Prakash Bahadur Singh: home affairs;
Keshar Bahadur Bista: education and culture;
Bharat Bahadur Pradhan: finance and industry;
Ramesh Nath Pandey: tourism, labour and social services.

Assistant ministers:

Nara Bahadur Budhadhoki: Panchayat and local development;
Chanda Shah: general administration;
Krishna Kumar Rai: communications.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene To Prevent Opposition Activities

BK141212 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] President Jayewardene told a largely attended public rally at (Demaragoda) last afternoon that government will not permit any attempt by the Sri Lanka Freedom Party to go round the country at this crucial juncture and criticize the government at every turn. He explained that sinister attempts of this nature can only lead to a blood bath as in 1983 and, therefore, this government will certainly use all its resources to prevent a repetition of that nature.

Mr Jayewardene told the gathering that a president elected by the popular vote cannot be removed from office in the manner that President Marcos was ousted from power in the Philippines. He explained that apart from the president and the president's government no other source has the authority to wipe out terrorism. Such power does not rest with Mrs Bandaranaike.

The president assured that terrorists and the terrorist menace will be wiped out as soon as possible. In spite of widespread terrorism, the government has not curtailed basic democratic freedom, such as free speech and the right to hold public meetings and criticize the government.

Reminding the people of a famous saying by Winston Churchill (?where) he said that it is better to die than to kill freedom, Mr Jayewardene said that the main objective is to launch an island-wide campaign to protect democracy and the freedom enshrined in democracy.

The prime minister, R. Premadasa, told the rally that we are now witnessing a massive threat to peace and discipline in the country. The peace-loving people are determined to protect the country from the threat of terrorism. Even the people in the north and the east are making a determined effort to forget differences and unite against this threat.

Mr Premadasa said that those sections who are attempting to make political capital out of this situation are the worst and the most dangerous terrorists.

Minister of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali said that in a crisis situation we should not be divided into various groups.

He told the gathering that the terrorists are trying to disrupt the unity which we have displayed in the country, therefore, we should all join ranks and fight the terrorist menace.

Bandaranaike Denies Plans for Violence

BK150922 Hong Kong AFP in English 0848 GMT 15 Jun 86

[Text] Colombo, June 15 (AFP) — Former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike has denied charges that her party was planning to stage mass demonstrations or unleash violence similar to the anti-Tamil riots of 1983.

President Junius Jayewardene's charge that her Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) was preparing to launch street demonstrations like those against former Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos was "totally wrong," Mrs. Bandaranaike told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Mr Jayewardene had told a mass rally in the capital Friday that if Mrs. Bandaranaike's party held such demonstrations, the government would crush them "mercilessly" and organize counter-demonstrations.

"What they are trying to do is to destroy innocent people, like in July 1983, to burn buildings," the president said.

Mrs. Bandaranaike said she planned to reply to Mr Jayewardene's charges Sunday at a public rally in a constituency north of Colombo. She said the SLFP was "a responsible political party. It has governed this country three times."

She said the "Whole world knows" who was responsible for the July 1983 riots which claimed 400 lives, mainly Tamils, by the official count. "If we were responsible for that violence why were we not arrested," Mrs. Bandaranaike added.

Meanwhile, a newspaper reported Sunday that a member of the main Tamil separatist group was killed Saturday and four wounded in a clash with another separatist organisation in northern Jaffna. The Sunday *OBSERVER* said the dead and wounded were from the hardline separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

The clash in Neerveli pitted the LTTE against the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) whose leader was shot at last Monday in Jaffna, the paper said. The report did not say whether the EPRLF leader was hurt in that incident or whether any of the group's members were wounded in Saturday's clash.

The newspaper also said that three bodies with cuts and bullet wounds were found Saturday in rice paddies in the village of Mallakam near Jaffna. Residents believed these were victims of "torture-executions" by a separatist group, the report added.

In another report from northeastern Trincomalee, the newspaper said the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) had appealed to other groups to join hands to "destroy" LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran.

TELO was virtually decimated by the LTTE in a week of factional fighting last April which ended in the killing of TELO leader Sri Sabaratnam. TELO sources said at least 300 of its members had been killed by the LTTE on Prabhakaran's orders.

A TELO leaflet charged that the LTTE leader was trying to "become a dictator" in the Tamil community by exterminating other groups. The leaflet, printed in Tamil and distributed in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, said that if he was not stopped, the LTTE leader would become "another Idi Amin."

Continuing Reportage on Clashes With Tamils

26 'Terrorists' Killed in Mannar

BK141139 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] Twenty-six hardcore LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] fighters were killed near a stone quarry at (Baratprakadandan), about 10 miles northeast of Mannar last afternoon, a joint operation command spokesman said.

A group riding two (?Elf) vans opened fire at a helicopter supporting ground troops on an operation. The chopper destroyed both vehicles and the attackers. Subsequently, a third (?Elf) also carrying LTTE fighters was destroyed. He said that the LTTE had lost 26 of its fighters. The security forces suffered no losses.

Meanwhile, the National Security Ministry said that three terrorists were killed when security forces opened fire at a group of terrorists at Mantai in the Mannar District on Thursday. It said that the troops, who were on a routine patrol, were attacked by the terorists and the security forces returned fire. One of the soldiers, who was injured, later succumbed to his injuries.

Khomeyni Reinstates Guardians Council Members

LD131647 Tehran IRNA in English 1552 GMT 13 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran, June 13, IRNA — The leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran Imam Khomeyni reinstated Hojjats ol-Eslam: Lotfollah Safi, Abdol-Qasim Khazali and Ahmad Jannati as jurist members of the Council of Guardians in a decree released here Thursday.

Imam Khomeyni in his decree lauded the jurists outstanding services, saying they were established in their posts because they have proved efficient and aware of current issues.

The Council of Guardians is responsible for final approval of all law bills passed by the Majlis (Islamic Consultative Assembly).

Imam Khomeyni also wished success for the council's members.

Besharati Discusses Lebanon Cease-Fire, Syria Visit

LD141124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Deputy Foreign Minister Besharati held a press conference at the conclusion of his trip to Syria and Lebanon at which he explained the effective role played by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran in terminating the fighting between warring groups in Lebanon and stressed the influence of the Islamic Republic of Iran over the warring factions of the region.

He stated: On this trip the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was carrying Grand Ayatollah Montazeri's message, met with the Syrian president in Damascus and with other influential personalities including religious and political authorities in Lebanon. Following lengthy negotiations with the warring parties and taking note of the moral influence that the Islamic Republic of Iran has over all the warring communities in Lebanon, it proposed a cease-fire, which was fortunately accepted by all warring parties. The Lebanese ulema also issued official statements, expressing support for this proposal and calling for the cease-fire to be observed.

The deputy foreign minister added: At the end of a lengthy session in Lebanon with the Amal and Palestinians, we made these two parties shake hands, and those present began their heart-warming calls for unity. The deputy foreign minister also stressed the stances adopted by the Islamic Republic of Iran in its defense of revolutionaries and its confrontation with Zionism.

In conclusion he said: In our meeting with Syrian officials they stressed their cooperation as regards our stances.

Briefs Khamene'i on Talks

LD141840 Tehran IRNA in English 1825 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — Acting Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati was received by President 'Ali Khamene'i here Saturday after his return from a week-long tour of Lebanon and Syria where he handed over the president's message to his Syrian counterpart, Hafiz al-Asad.

Besharati in the meeting briefed the president on his two-hour talks with President al-Asad on Tehran-Damascus ties. He also quoted Syria's president as describing the two countries' ties as 'strategic,' 'principled' and 'steadfast.'

In response, President Khamene'i, stressing on the friendly ties between Iran and Syria, and said the two coutnries' cooperation in international and regional affairs are noteworthy.

On the issue of Lebanon and the end of the war of the camps in Beirut, President Khamene'i stressed that the Lebanese people should get united in order to eliminate the global arrogance's presence and check their infiltration of the country. The president also hailed Shi'a and Sunni Muslim Lebanese figures for playing a key role in arranging the cease-fire in Beirut.

Syria Reiterates Support

LD141811 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran June 14, IRNA — President Hafiz al-Asad has pledged Syria's full support for the Islamic Republic of Iran and for its progressive foreign policy, according to Iranian acting foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati here Saturday.

The acting foreign minister, who has just returned from a tour of Lebanon and Syria said President al-Asad told him in the talks that Syria would continue its full-scale support for Iran.

Besharati furthermore refuted rumors of a cut-off in Iran's oil exports to Syria and of Syria's reopening of an Iraqi oil pipeline through that country. He described the rumors as baseless.

Acting foreign Minister Besharati also termed Iran-Syria ties as "principled" and said they are based on their common anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist struggle.

On the successful mediation efforts of an Iranian delegation between warring Amal Militiamen and Palestinians in Beirut, Besharati said that the delegation had defied the odds by convincing the fighting sides to agree to a cease-fire. The delegation successfully transferred wounded Palestinians from the camps safely, Besharati said.

On Iran's stance on the war between Lebanese groups known as the war of camps, he said: "In our opinion, the Zionist regime is the arch-enemy of Islam and Lebanese combatants who have dealt fatal blows to the imperialism and Zionism, changing the course of war in favour of Muslims. He said the [words indistinct] their arms only at the Zionist forces."

Khamene'i on CIA Misunderstanding of Islam

LD141715 Tehran IRNA in English 1619 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Saturday that foreign intelligence agencies had failed to

understand the social depth of the Islamic Revolution in Iran and that the Islamic Republic would continue its forward trend.

Khamene'i said the "mindless spy organizations in the world, including the (U.S. intelligence agency) CIA are shallow" in their understanding of the 1979 Islamic revolution.

These organizations have illusions about differences among officials in Iran because they fail to have an in depth understanding of the current affairs here, according to the president. "They fail to see the depth of the ocean of the revolution" he said.

World powers have been at odds with the Islamic Republic of Iran since its formation in 1979 because of its independent foreign policy.

The president said arrogant powers have tried to isolate the Islamic Republic through economic and military pressure "but the voice of the Islamic Revolution has been so loud that it has reached the four corners of the world".

There are people in the Far East and Latin America whose hearts are beating for the Islamic Republic and its leader, Imam Khomeyni, said the president with regards to the supporters of the country.

The Islamic Republic calls for the revival of the Islamic movement aimed at safeguarding the interests of the oppressed people around the world.

The president was addressing a seminar on the war-effort.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Leads Friday Prayers Sermons

LD131404 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jun 86

[Text] Today, the last day of Jerusalem Week, our Muslim compatriots throughout the country observed the political-religious Friday prayers ceremonies. Tehran's citizens held Friday prayers at Tehran University and in adjacent streets under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani today.

In his Friday prayers sermons today, in connection with the forthcoming anniversary of the issuance of Imam Khomeyni's command on establishing the Reconstruction Jihad, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani praised the valuable services rendered by the Reconstruction Jihad throughout the past 7 years in the country's deprived regions, saying: Since the inception of the Reconstruction Jihad 5,000 villages in the country have come to enjoy the benefits of electricity, piped drinking water, and road networks — an extremely momentous task coupled with securing welfare services needed by the rural population in the agricultural and industrial sectors and securing cultural services in rural areas.

Referring to the valuable services rendered by the Reconstruction Jihad on the battlefronts since the beginning of the imposed war, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council mentioned the initiative taken by the jihad workers in constructing huge pontoon bridges with load-bearing capacities of 80 metric tons, which played a decisive role in the victory of Islam's combatants on the fronts.

Referring to the recent remarks by the imam of the Islamic nation with regard to the unity of the people's participation in trade, cultural and educational affairs, including problems connected with schools and universities, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani then said: In his speech the imam of the Islamic nation expressed great appreciation for our nation. The people's vast presence in the ceremonies connected with International Jerusalem Day throughout the country and in remote areas could only impress everyone, and the good work carried out by the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in covering the momentous ceremonies of International Jerusalem Day in Tehran and in the country's various cities filled the imam of the Islamic nation with joy at the people's vast participation in these ceremonies and made him express his appreciation. The conclusion reached by the imam of the Islamic nations is that the authorities should deal sincerely with such people, and that matters should get to a point where we would create difficulties should our tastes be at variance. The Majlis, radio and television, the press and mosques should become the focal point for the unity and unison of the people. At present to sow discord is tantamount to a grave sin contrary to the line of the imam of the Islamic nation.

Referring to the imam of the Islamic nation's speech in connection with the people's participation in trade affairs, the Majlis speaker said: At one time, while enjoying oil revenues totaling $20-30 billion, the government was able to implement development plans on a colossal level. At present, however, the implementation of a great many development plans is impossible for the government because of oil revenue problems. Therefore, the people can actively and extensively participate in development plans, and the government can also supervise and control this participation, because we are not prepared to return to even 20 percent of the conditions that prevailed during the satanical era whereby the same leeches would once again return. The government cannot permit past acts of exploitation and (?indolence) to be repeated. The government should be given a free hand in order to retain the means of control. The people's participation in industry, trade, exports and import should be encouraged and the government should punish anyone who overcharges, any hoarder and transgressor who abuses the climate of freedom, because the overchargers and hoarders who perpetrate corruption behind the front deserve execution.

In his sermons he referred to the imam's remarks on the people's participation in the affairs of schools and universities and noted the fact that the universities and higher institutions of learning could accomodate only 50,000 out of 500,000 applicants.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: If more potential were given to this sector, the conditions of learning in our society would improve. These conditions should be defined by the government in order to clarify the capabilities and types of participation by the people in setting up teaching units. Quotas should be worked out for the universities to enroll capable but deprived individuals. The anxiety of the revolutionary forces regarding the pollution of teaching is quite justified, and the

supervision which the imam has ordered should be carried out to the letter.

USSR Envoy Delivers Gorbachev Message for Khamene'i

LD141049 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the head of the Soviet diplomatic mission in Tehran delivered a message from Mikhail Gorbachev, leader of the USSR, addressed to President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, to Mir-Salim, adviser to the president.

Reportage, Commentary on Visit of USSR Delegation

Oil, Fisheries Cooperation Reviewed

LD151903 Tehran IRNA in English 1818 GMT 15 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA — Irano-Soviet cooperation in the fields of oil, gas, fisheries and transportation were reviewed here Sunday in a meeting between the visiting director-general of the Soviet State Commission on Economic and International Cooperation for Asia and the Middle East, Yakubov, and Iranian Deputy foreign minister for international and economic affairs Javad Larijani.

Larijani said in the meeting that the Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to expand cooperation with the countries with which it has common outlooks.

Yakubov announced his country's preparedness to further Irano-Soviet relations. During his one-week stay in Tehran the Soviet official is to hold talks with the Iranian officials on the forthcoming meet of the joint ministerial commission of the two countries. The Soviet official arrived here Wednesday.

Tehran Turkish Commentary

GF151700 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Unattributed commentary: "A Soviet Economic Delegation Has Arrived in Iran"]

[Text] Dear listeners, a Soviet economic delegation arrived in Iran last Wednesday for talks on broadening economic and trade cooperation between Iran and the Soviet Union. The delegation, which is composed of experts and led by Yakubov, the director-general of the Soviet Economic Cooperation Committee, was met by officials of the Ministry of Economy and Finance. It will stay in Tehran for one week and hold talks on bilateral cooperation. This issue is to be included on the agenda of the joint committee meeting which will be held at the ministerial level at a future date. Apart from this, it will discuss the drawing up of a draft protocol between the two countries on economic cooperation.

It is common knowledge that due to common borders and similarity of names [Azarbayjan of Iran and the Azerbaijan SSR] trade relations between the two countries were established at a satisfactory level and the two sides have been benefitting from trade concessions. The availability of land and sea transport and the low cost of transportation are factors which have encouraged the two countries to engage in trade and economic cooperation on a wide scale. Nevertheless, economic relations between the two countries fluctuated after the Islamic Revolution in Iran but have improved and developed in time.

Now we hope for the further development of economic and trade cooperation which is in the interests of the two countries.

Envoy to Paris Meets With French Ministers

LD131613 Tehran IRNA in English 1525 GMT 13 Jun 86

[Text] Paris, June 13, IRNA — Iranian charge d'affaires to Paris Gholam Reza Haddadi met and conferred with French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and Foreign Minister Jean Bernard Raimond separately here Thursday.

In his meeting with the French prime minister, Haddadi discussed Tehran-Paris relations and conveyed to him a verbal message from Iranian deputy prime minister for political affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri.

In another meeting with the French foreign minister, Haddadi gave him a copy of his credentials and also conveyed to him a verbal message from his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,500

LD131628 Tehran IRNA in English 1656 GMT 13 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran, June 13, IRNA — At least 50 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several enemy gun emplacements, some military vehicles, and one munitions dump destroyed in the southern, northwestern and western fronts Thursday as Iranian forces shelled Iraqi positions, said a military communique here Friday.

The Joint Staff Communique Number 2500 said that Iranian Gendarmerie forces despatched patrols and opened fire on Iraqi positions in Zobeydeh, Bayat, Bejliyeh, and Paveh killing or wounding at least 10 Iraqi soldiers and destroying several bunkers of theirs. Some Iraqi patrol units trying to infiltrate Iranian positions in Sharhani, Chazzabeh and Bejliyeh, southern fronts, were shelled and forced to flee, the communique said.

Muslim forces of Iran, the communique said, carried out reconnaissance missions and ambushed Iraqi positions throughout the fronts preventing them from launching any military operations.

The communique said that Iranian artillery fire pounded positions, supply routes, armoured military hardware and engineering machinery of Iraqi forces throughout the fronts Thursday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them.

Iranian Navy patrolled the Persian Gulf and the Hormuz Strait Thursday, according to the communique.

Meanwhile, several houses and shops as well as parts of urban facilities were damaged in Abadan Thursday as the city was hit by Iraqi artillery fire.

Hajj 'Umran Area Bombed

GF140513 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] At 0512 this morning [0142 GMT] Air Force pilots of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran heavily bombed troop concentrations and units of the Zionist enemy with their fighter-bombers in the Hajj 'Umran area. After delivering heavy damage to the enemy, they all returned safely to their bases.

Communique No 2,501

LD141757 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 14 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — Iran fighter bombers heavily pounded concentration centers of Iraqi troops in Hajj 'Umran at 05:12 (01:42 GMT) Saturday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them. The fighters safely returned to their bases after carrying out their successful mission, said a military communique.

The Joint Staff Communique number 2501 released here Saturday said Muslim forces of Iran shelled Iraqi patrol boats sailing in Majnun Islands Friday, inflicting damage on them.

Iranian gendarmerie forces, the communique said, responded to Iraqi artillery [words indistinct] in the southern front killing or wounding five Iraqi soldiers, destroying four light or heavy vehicles and setting fire to parts of their positions.

Iranian Muslim combatants despatched patrol units and pounded Iraqi armoured units in Piranshahr, Hajj 'Umran, Sardasht and Marivan Friday, inflicting heavy casualties and silencing enemy fire.

In the Western fronts Iranian forces opened fire on supply routes and positions of Iraqi forces, silencing their fire and killing or wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers.

Some Iraqi patrol units trying to infiltrate Iranian positions in Qasr-e Shirin, Halaleh and Sumar were shelled and forced to flee after sustaining casualties and losses, said the communique.

In Sumar, Western fronts, it added, Iranian Muslim combatants shelled an Iraqi supply convoy inflicting considerable casualties and losses and halted its movement.

Iraqi troops carrying out engineering operations and enemy columns transporting personnel in Chazzabeh, Nahr-Anbar and Hoseyniyeh were shelled by Iranian forces as a result of which Iraqi forces sustained casualties, according to the communique.

Meanwhile, four houses and shops were damaged in Abadan, Khuzestan Province, Friday by Iraqi long-range artillery fire.

Iraqi Gunboat Sunk

LD151047 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jun 86

[Text] A report from Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ says: While continuing to safeguard the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater, Islamic naval and coastal forces this morning hit one advancing Iraqi gunboat on the far side of Khawr 'Abdallah and destroyed it.

The smashed Iraqi gunboat, whose entire crew has been killed, was sunk after being engulfed in fire for some hours.

Communique No 2,502

LD151615 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 15 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants Saturday and Sunday exchanged artillery fire with the Iraqi forces in the northwestern fronts silencing Iraqi fire and destroying many positions of theirs.

The Iranian combatants also killed and wounded a number of Iraqi soldiers and prevented movement of convoys of their army vehicles, According to a military communique released here Sunday.

In its Communique Number 2502, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said exchange of artillery fire sporadically continued Saturday and Sunday in western operational regions being somewhat more intense in Sumar and Mehran, Iraqi units sustaining heavy casualties and losses.

In the southern fronts, the communique said, the Muslim combatants of Iran repelled Iraqi patrol units from Nahr-Anbar, Yebis and Chazzabeh.

The Iranian Muslim fighters prevented engineering operations and movements of the Iraqi tanks in Nahr-Anbar and western Arvand River Saturday and Sunday and a large number of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and their positions destroyed as a result of heavy fire of the Iranian Muslim combatants, according to the Joint Staff Communique.

The Joint Staff said that Muslim combatants of Iran heavily shelled enemy units in Eynkhosh and Yebis overpowering the fire of Iraqi tanks and thwarting enemy operations. Iraqi forces sustained casualties and loses during the Operations, it added.

Meanwhile, the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, was shelled by the Iraqi artillery from across the Border Saturday causing damage to some houses and shops.